

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 IGA-02 DOTE-00 /080 W  
----- 073087

R 210900Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5884

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 0513

STATE PASS AID/W

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, AF, IR

SUBJ: AFGHAN MINISTER OF PLANNING KHURRAM'S VISIT TO TEHRAN

JANUARY 5-7, 1976

1. BEGIN LOU: IN CONVERSATION JANUARY 18 WITH USAID DIRECTOR, AFGHAN MINISTER OF PLANNING ALI AHMAD KHURRAM SAID THAT THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR HIS RECENT TRIP TO TEHRAN WAS TO SIGN A PROJECT AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS. AGREEMENT WILL FINANCE THE PURCHASE FROM IRAN OF 250 BUSES FOR USE IN PROVINCIAL INTER-CITY TRANSPORT. FIFTY OF THE TOTAL WILL BE MINI-BUSES.

2. KHURRAM EXPLAINED THE TERMS OF THIS ASSISTANCE PACKAGE AS FOLLOWS: FIFTEEN PERCENT OF THE TOTAL WILL BE PROVIDED ON A GRANT BASIS TO BE USED AS A DOWN PAYMENT TO THE BUS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY. EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT WILL BE IN THE FORM OF A LOAN AT FOUR PERCENT INTEREST, REPAYABLE WITHIN 20 YEARS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE REPAYMENT WILL BE FINANCED FROM PROFITS OF THE BUS SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED.

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3. KHURRAM EXPLAINED THAT THE LOAN WILL BE PLACED IN A SPECIAL

AFGHAN BANK ACCOUNT IN PERIODIC TRANCHES OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THE DRAW-DOWN OF THIS MONEY WILL BE MADE AT WHATEVER RATE THE AFGHANS FEEL APPROPRIATE. HE MENTIONED SOME POSSIBILITY OF USING SOME OF THIS MONEY FOR ALTERNATE PROJECTS IN THE INTERIM, BUT DID NOT ELABORATE.

4. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT OTHER AID ASPECTS, THE MINISTER WAS VAGUE. HE SAID THAT THE IRANIANS ARE TIGHT FOR AID FUNDS, BUT HE EXPECTED THAT THE AFGHAN LEVEL WOULD BE MAINTAINED. IN RESPONSE TO A SPECIFIC QUESTION ABOUT THE RAIL ROAD PROJECT, HE SAID THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS STILL INTEND TO PROCEED WITH IT. END LOU.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: WE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE TIMELY INTERVENTION BY EMBASSY TEHRAN TO ALERT IRANIANS OF IMPLICATION SOVIET AND CZECH BIDS ON KANDAHAR TEXTILE AND CEMENT PLANTS BEFORE KHURRAM VISIT. KHURRAM DID NOT ALLUDE TO THESE PROJECTS BUT SPATE OF ACTIVITY HERE OVER PAST FEW DAYS SHOWS CEMENT PLANT AWARD, AT LEAST, IS STILL UP FOR GRABS. IT MAY BE IRANIANS FOUND WAY TO APPLY DISCREET BRAKES TO THEIR FINANCING OF EXPANSION OF EASTERN EUROPEAN PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN. END CONFIDENTIAL.  
ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MOTOR BUSES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1976KABUL00513  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AFGHAN MINISTER OF PLANNING KHURRAM'S VISIT TO TEHRAN JANUARY 5-7, 1976  
**TAGS:** EAID, PFOR, AF, IR, (KHURRAM, ALI AHMAD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006